

# Christian Reflector.

VOL. 2.—No. 13.

WORCESTER, (MASS.) FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1839.

CYRUS P. GROSVENOR, Editor.

## THE CHRISTIAN REFLECTOR

IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY,  
By a Board of Managers, consisting of seven Ministers and eight Laymen, of the Baptist Denomination, at Two Dollars a year, payable always in advance. For Twenty Dollars paid by one hand, eleven copies; and for Thirty-six Dollars paid by one hand, twenty-one copies. The payment will be sent to subscribers by mail, unless otherwise ordered.

For a few advertisements of a general character will be admitted at the usual rates.

All Communications, POSTAGE PAID, will be attended to.

PRINTED BY

M. SPOONER & H. J. HOWLAND

## STATE LUNATIC HOSPITAL.

From the sixth Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, December, 1838.

It is now more than a year since we commenced having religious worship in our chapel. During that time, with very few exceptions, we have had two regular meetings on each Sabbath; more than one hundred sermons have been preached to our congregation by about thirty clergymen of different denominations. At the present time we have a regular chaplain. We have a choir of singers, who perform very acceptably every Sabbath; in the course of the season, from thirty to forty patients have belonged to this choir, on some occasions the music has been led by a patient: we have never less than two, and generally three or four musical instruments in our choir.

It was our design at the commencement of religious worship for the insane, to give our chapel all the solemnity of a church dedicated to Almighty God, and to our religious exercises, all the dignity and character of other religious assemblies; for this purpose we employed a regular preacher, assembled a choir of singers, and adopted the same hours of meeting, that are customary in the New England churches.

We soon found, that to carry out our plans to perfection in this important part of moral management, we must have the aid and assistance of every person employed in the Hospital. If individuals chose to attend church elsewhere, it was proof to the minds of our patients that other places were preferred, and of course supposed better. This to many, seemed at first too arbitrary. Almost every person employed at the Hospital had attended some one of the churches in the village, paid his taxes and owned or rented a seat for which he had paid or was obliged to pay. After much deliberation it was resolved to take a decided stand and make a regulation, that every officer of the institution must attend worship in the chapel, on the Sabbath, and nowhere else. The example was set by my own family, my Assistant, the Steward and Matron. With an unanimity and disinterested zeal worthy of all commendation, did our whole family come into the measure, and have persevered, without a desire of change to this time; to this most benevolent and necessary action of our whole body of attendants and assistants, we are greatly indebted for the perfection and beauty with which this part of our plan of management has been accomplished.

The number of patients that have been in the Hospital, since the chapel was dedicated is three hundred and seventy-six, of which number, three hundred and fourteen have attended religious worship. Of the one hundred and seventy-seven, that have been admitted during the last year, one hundred and forty-four have been in the chapel more or less.

## BAPTIST ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.

We took the liberty quite recently, to second a proposition of a respected correspondent, proposing to call a convention of Baptists who are now recognized as the friends of the oppressed, and invited the attention of our brethren to the propriety of forming a Society which should meet annually in connexion with the Maine Baptist Convention. We made this proposition to awaken inquiry and elicit the views of our brethren upon a subject involving the happiness of millions, and not to draw off our friends from existing organizations. For, two years past we have met with but few of our brethren at the meeting of Anti-Slavery Societies, either as it respects the State or County organizations. This failure of attendance have contemplated with pain.

Other denominations are taking the lead in those organizations, and Baptists, though a majority of them are true Abolitionists, are in the back ground. We need an organization, therefore that shall hold its anniversary, in connexion with our great denominational meetings, when we may secure the attention of our brethren without wounding the feelings of brethren whom we love and respect, and who believe that a promiscuous discussion of the slavery question in connexion with the transaction of conventional business is improper, and attended with disastrous results. And we have every means that is requisite, to carry this organization into operation. To our correspondent who has expressed his fears that we have not men of talent and influence of character sufficient to sustain such an organization, we have to say, that he cannot be extensively acquainted with Baptist Abolitionists of Maine, East and West, North and South who did not perceive the drift of the passage, or else feigned ignorance; what do you make of that?

Make of it? said the young man, why, if he was brought up in Nazareth, he was not brought up in Egypt, surely. The gentleman turned on his heel and went away. Thus it is with many carvers at the Bible. They have never examined it for themselves. They take their arguments many of them, at a second hand. A mere boy, who is a thorough Bible student, can often foil them with their own weapons. S. S. Messenger.

Sometime in the Spring, a female patient came into the hospital in the highest state of excitement; she disturbed the whole establishment for three or four days and nights previous to the Sabbath. On Sabbath morning she appeared more composed, but far from being quiet; when I visited the hall in which she was confined, she approached me very respectfully and asked if she could attend meeting. I told her our rules were very rigid and I was afraid she could not observe them strictly; she inquired what they were, and was told that she must sit still, be quiet and attend strictly to the preacher; she promised to do all and was permitted to attend. She was still till the choir began to sing, when she struck up loudly, but not discordantly with the choir; she was gently checked by the attendant who sat beside her and requested not to sing; she replied in a whisper, "That was not in the pledge to the Doctor." She however, concluded to desist.

After the service was over, she complained bitterly that she was not permitted to sing unmolested, and declared that if she went in the afternoon she would sing at any rate. I was informed of her determination and sent word to her, that as she was not accustomed to sing with our choir, she must defer it till she had some opportunity to practise with them, when we should be very glad of her assistance. She hesitated a minute, and then said, "give me a cracker, with the aid of that I think I can stop my mouth and keep still." The cracker was given her; during the singing she used her cracker, and went through the service perfectly well, and, although often much excited, she has always conducted with propriety in the chapel."

From the Eastern Baptist.

## WORSE AND WORSE.

Every new item of intelligence relating to slavery, which reaches us, seems to carry with it a deeper color, and shows more and more, the wicked and heart-sickening consequences which result from it. We now learn that Missionaries are not permitted to go and preach the word of life and salvation amongst the slaves. And has it come to this; that while Burnrah and almost every Pagan nation, allows the Missionaries to preach the gospel in their dominions, republican America, christian America!! spurns the ambassador of Christ from her land, and will not suffer him to labor for the salvation of her slaves!!!

We considered it bad enough, to enact laws prohibiting the slaves being taught to read the word of life; but who would ever have believed, that a community calling themselves christians would ever have attempted to shut the door of heaven against the souls of this down-trodden race! Surely slaveholders are filling up the cup of their iniquity fast; and will not the cry of this oppressed people go up to God? "And will he not be avenged on such a nation as this?" But we are more surprised still that our Northern churches and ministers should hold any fellowship with slaveholding professors of religion. It is a case to which the most delightful change has taken place among them, in relation to the cause of education, through the laudable efforts of Col. Beckwith, an English officer, who was disabled from actual service at the battle of Waterloo and who has for many years spent his winters with them. Through his exertions, a hospital has been completed, near the centre of the Province, for the sick poor; a college has been founded; a large building has been erected in each parish for a school of a higher order; and a school house projected in each district or neighborhood, throughout the territory, amounting in all to one hundred and sixty; more than half of which were completed in 1837. He has also planned a school for the education of teachers. Although in accomplishing these objects, he has been liberal in the use of his own funds, the main expense has been borne by the people themselves. Col. Beckwith hopes by these means to raise up a host of protestant missionaries, for France and Italy. The people speak both of these languages; though their vulgar tongue is a mixture of French and Italian.

THE BOY AND THE INFIDEL.

Said a gentleman in Boston, who does not believe the Bible, to a young Sabbath school teacher, one day, not long since— Do you know how Jesus Christ learned to work his pretended miracles?

I have no doubt they were real miracles, answered the young man; and that they were wrought by the mighty power of God. Nonsense! superstition! said the gentleman; nothing but superstition!—Why he learned it of the Egyptian magicians. Do you not know that he spent all his early life in Egypt?

I know he was there a short time, when he was quite young, answered the teacher, but not long.

You cannot prove, said the gentleman, even from the Bible itself, that he did not live there till he was about thirty, except that he was at Jerusalem once; when he was about twelve years old.

The young man drew his Bible from his pocket, and opened to the fourth chapter of Luke's gospel, at the sixteenth verse, and asked the gentleman to read it.

No, said he, read it yourself, if you please; I do not wish to take the trouble.

So the young man proceeded to read as follows: "And he (that is Jesus) came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read."

Well, what of that? said the gentleman who did not perceive the drift of the passage, or else feigned ignorance; what do you make of that?

Make of it? said the young man, why,

if he was brought up in Nazareth, he was not brought up in Egypt, surely.

The gentleman turned on his heel and went away. Thus it is with many carvers at the Bible. They have never examined it for themselves. They take their arguments many of them, at a second hand.

A mere boy, who is a thorough Bible student, can often foil them with their own weapons.

S. S. Messenger.

From the N. Y. Baptist Register.

## REVIVAL INTELLIGENCE.

ITHACA, March 4, 1839.

BR. BEEREE—Believing that it is ever gratifying to the children of God to hear of the prosperity of our common Zion, I hasten to communicate to the public, through the columns of your paper, the pleasing intelligence that "God has done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

Yesterday I had the pleasure of waiting upon fourteen dear precious youth into the liquid grave of my blessed Lord, and among them was my own dear son. I have baptized in all sixty, and there are still many more who will doubtless improve the earliest opportunity to obey their Lord. The work with us, during the winter, has been of the most interesting character. It has been truly "the still small voice," speaking in gentle accents, yet with power and efficiency; and the first we would know of its power would be the regeneration of some stubborn sinner at the foot of the cross. The work is in progression, and I do not think that it has appeared more favorable at any time than yesterday. The silence of eternity seemed to rest down on the congregation, and the vast multitude listened as if it were dwelt on the lips of him who ministers in holy things.

We have had every opposition to encounter which wickedness and prejudice could invent; but we believe that in a special manner "God has remembered his oppressed people," "and the time, yea, the set time, to favor them has come."

It is thought that the Baptist interest in Ithaca was never more favorable than the present; and, oh! may God keep us humble, and make us willing to honor and serve him with all we have and are.

We earnestly request the prayers of your readers, together with your own, that we may be prospered in doing the will of our heavenly Father.

Yours, affectionately,

S. S. PARKE.

From the N. H. Baptist Register.

Bro. Peacock baptized five in Keene, on the first Sabbath in the month.

CLOVERTON. Extract from a letter received by the Editor, from the pastor of the Baptist church, dated

CLOVERTON, March 12.

DEAR BRO. WORTH.—The Lord has again visited this people with a revival of religion. Forty eight have been baptized, and about the same number, in all, have connected themselves with the other evangelical churches. Many more indulge hope, in this and adjoining towns, as the result of our protracted meeting. We enjoyed for a time the preaching of Bro. John H. Walden from New York, which was blessed, not only to the conversion of souls, but we believe, from what we have seen since his departure, to the lasting benefit of the church. Our social meetings have at no period manifested so much of spirituality and persevering determination to holiness of heart as now.

Your brother in the gospel,

D. H. RANNEY.

STANTON ST. CHURCH, N. Y. CITY.—The

GOPEL WITNESS gives an account of a precious season in this church, from which we give an extract.

The first Sabbath in Feb. 55, and the first in March 56, immortal beings went down into the water and were baptized in the likeness of the Savior's death.

THE MISSIONARY'S WIFE.—STEVENS in his *Incidents of Travel*, after acknowledging that his prejudice against missionaries was greatly abated by an actual acquaintance with them in foreign lands, thus beautifully portrays a missionary's wife.

She who had been cherished as plain that the winds must not breathe on too rudely, recovers from the shock of a separation from her friends to find herself in a land of barbarians, where her loud cry of distress can never reach their ears. New ties twine round her heart, and the tender and helpless girl changes her very nature, and becomes the staff and support of the man. In his hours of despondency she raises his drooping spirits; she bathes his aching head; she smooths his pillow of sickness; and, after months of wearisome silence, I have entered her dwelling, and her heart instinctively told her that I was from the same land. I have been welcomed as a brother; answered her hurried and anxious, and eager questions; and sometimes when I have known any of her friends at home, I have been for a moment more than compensated for all the toils and privations of a traveller in the East. I have left her dwelling burdened with remembrances to friends whom she will never see again. I have been welcomed as a brother; answered her hurried and anxious, and eager questions; and sometimes when I have known any of her friends at home, I have been for a moment more than compensated for all the toils and privations of a traveller in the East. I have left her dwelling burdened with remembrances to friends whom she will never see again.

The young man drew his Bible from his pocket, and opened to the fourth chapter of Luke's gospel, at the sixteenth verse, and asked the gentleman to read it.

No, said he, read it yourself, if you please; I do not wish to take the trouble.

DEACON A. Does, very fully and clearly. He has kept back nothing that was profitable to us. He has not shunned to declare unto us the whole counsel of God.

Mod. Has he been deficient in private labors.

Deacon A. Not at all. He has not only taught us 'publicly' but 'from house to house.'

Mod. Well, then is he a cold, unfeeling preacher?

Deacon A. Far from it. It can truly be said of him, he has 'ceased not to warn every one, night and day, with tears.'

Mod. Do tell us, then, Deacon Allthings, what you wish to get rid of him.

Deacon A. Why, sir, Mr. Goodman is a pious, worthy minister; he is very faithful, and I love him much; but it somehow happens that he is not popular. He fails, as a body may say, in 'fancy work.' Ours is a growing place; and we think it important to have a smarter man—a man who will draw in more of the young people and the men of influence. We must have a man who is good at 'fancy work.' So all our leading men think—squire Mummus, and Mr. Bolus, and Mr. Yardstick the rich merchant, and Judge Mandamus: and, to speak plainly, I think so too.

The Rev. Mr. Goodman was dismissed.

Mr. Fair speech, a rich merchant, and a particular friend of mine, lately moved into your city. Soon after his settlement there, I had a conversation with him, the substance of which I will give you.

Self. Well, brother Fair speech, which of the New York churches do you think of joining? I have been told there are sever-

al new churches—formed with special reference to the wants of the city—with reference especially to the multitudes who neglect public worship. I hope you will join one of them, especially as they are feeble, and greatly need accession of the right kind.

Mr. Fair speech. Why, as to joining one of those churches, Friend Old fellow, I have my doubts. It is one of their leading objects, I understand, to operate on the poor and ignorant. And such 'plain work,' you know, almost any body can do.

Such plain men as Harlan Page can do it quite as well as I. But in the older congregations, especially those made up chiefly of the rich and fashionable, there is a great deal of 'fancy work' to be done, of which most men would be wholly incapable. An influence is to be exerted over the higher classes—

an influence of a very peculiar kind.—For this—between ourselves—I consider myself admirably fitted. I think I shall go into one of the older churches, and do 'fancy work.'

THE PAWNBROKER.

Visiting a pawnbroker's shop in Chatham street for the purpose of redeeming some articles left by an unfortunate friend, the following circumstance arrested my attention.

A middle-aged man entered with a bundle, on which he asked a small advance, and which, on being opened, was found to contain a shawl and two or three other articles of female apparel. The man was stout and sturdy, and, as I judged from appearance, a mechanic; but the mark of the destroyer was on his bloated countenance and his heavy stupid eyes. Intemperance had marked him for her own. The pawnbroker was yet examining the offered pledge, when a woman, whose pale face and attenuated form bespoke long, intimate acquaintance with sorrow, came hastily into the shop, and with the single exclamation, "O Robert!" darting to that part of the counter where the man was standing. Words were not wanted to explain her story, her miserable husband, not satisfied with wasting his own earnings, and leaving her to starve with her children, had descended to the meanness of even plundering her wardrobe, and the pitiable effort of obtaining of which this robbery was destined to be squandered at a tipping-house. A blushing shame arose even upon his degraded face, but it quickly passed away; the brutal appetite prevailed, and the better feeling, that had apparently stirred within him for the moment, soon gave way before its diseased and insatiate cravings.

"Go home," was his harsh and angry exclamation; "what brings you here, running after me with your everlasting scolding!—Go home and mind your own business."

"Oh Robert, dear Robert!" answered the unhappy wife, "don't pawn my shawl!" Our children are crying for bread, and I have none to give them. Or let me have the money; it is hard to part with that shawl, for it was my mother's gift, but I will let it go rather than see my children starve.

I watched the face of the pawnbroker, to see what effect this appeal would have upon him, but I watched in vain. He was hardened to distress, and had no sympathy to throw away. "Twelve shillings on these," he said, tossing them back to the drunkard with a look of perfect indifference.

"Only twelve shillings!" murmured the heart-broken wife, in a tone of despair.—"Oh Robert, don't let them go for twelve shillings. Let me try somewhere else."

"Nonsense!" answered the brute. "It is as much as they're worth, I suppose. Here, Mr. Crimp, give us the change."

The money was placed before him, and the bundle consigned to a drawer. The woman reached forth her hand toward the silver, but the movement was anticipated by her husband. "There, Mary," he said giving her half a dollar, "there, go home now, and don't make a fuss. I'm going a little way up street, and perhaps I'll bring you something from market, when I come home."

The hopeless look of the poor woman, as the bundle was consigned to a drawer. The woman reached forth her hand toward the silver, but the movement was anticipated by her husband. "There, Mary," he said giving her half a dollar, "there, go home now, and don't make a fuss. I'm going a little way up street, and perhaps I'll bring you something from market, when I come home."

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CIRCULAR.  
Addressed to the Female Anti-Slavery Society of the United States.

LOVED FRIENDS AND FELLOW LABORERS.—The rapidly passing months admonish us that it is time to commence our arrangements for our annual Convention, which is to be held, according to adjournment, in this city, in May next. We affectionately invite you to assemble here on Wednesday, the 5th day of that month, when we shall rejoice to welcome you to our hearts and our homes. In selecting this day for the opening of our Convention, we have endeavored to consult the convenience of our distant friends, as well as our own, and to avoid interference with other anniversaries which occur during the same month. We trust that the unpleasant and painful circumstances in which we met last year, have not dismayed your hearts nor weakened your hands, and that the zeal and energy which were then displayed, are unabated in your bosoms, and with increased strength and fervor will characterize our approaching Convention.

Those circumstances would have taught us if we had not learned it before, that patience and fortitude, as well as courage and zeal, are requisite to the successful prosecution of our work. Endowed with these and all other needed graces, and panoplied with prayer, let us, dear sisters, come together, in large numbers, to devise plans for more efficient action in behalf of the slave. It is, doubtless, our mutual and fervent desire that our meeting may be conducted in a manner worthy of its cause, and that its results may be instrumental in shortening, by at least a few brief days, the long and bitter period of our brethren's bondage. We will hope that such may be its fruits; we cannot doubt, while we remember the experience of the past, that it will bring good to our own souls.

By mutual sympathy, counsel and prayer we may, at least, renew our strength to go on our future way. There are many reasons that we might urge, but which you may easily conceive, why our Convention

should not be inferior to the last in point of numbers, or in other respects. We trust that you will not suffer it to be so. But you need not entreaty argument from us, for you have, with us, a common interest in the cause of the slave and the results of our Convention. It is your Convention; the Convention of the anti-slavery women of America.

We shall be happy to receive from you any suggestions respecting preliminary arrangements, and hope that you will communicate freely with us. Let your delegations be large and appointed in season. If possible, let us have a representation from all the free states. In conclusion, allow us to assure you that all our anti-slavery sisters, who are inclined to come up to this convention, whether delegates from societies or not, from the North or the South, will meet with a cordial reception from our members.

Signed on behalf of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society.

SARAH PUGH, President.

MARY GREW, Cor. Sec.

From the Christian Register.

NORTH EASTERN BOUNDARY.—THE WAR-SPRIT.

It is highly gratifying to perceive by the latest accounts which have reached Boston at the time when our paper goes to press, that affairs in regard to the North Eastern Boundary are assuming a more pacific aspect.

A war with Great Britain, as, indeed, with any nation, is to be earnestly deprecated by every good citizen of the United States.

We are not disposed at the present moment, to express any opinion with regard to the propriety and justice of the course pursued by Maine. Perhaps it may have been judicious, and may end in good. At any rate we are fully satisfied that the conduct of the British in regard to the disputed territory has been extremely unjust and censurable.

It is a painful subject of thought that there is so much of the war spirit manifested on the occasion, amongst the people of our country. But, for one, we sincerely believe that the majority of our citizens are entirely opposed to war. They love their rights and will maintain them; they hate any thing that wears the appearance of assumption and tyranny on the part of Foreign nations, and will instantly repel and put it down; they have a keen sense of national honor, and will not suffer it to be violated with impunity; but that they, generally, desire open war, and pant for the tented field we cannot and will not allow.

There are many restless spirits among us; many unprincipled and incendiary men; many pugnaciously disposed, many who thoughtlessly desire excitement without regard to cause or consequence—and the voices of such as these are still for war—but the deep and sincere cry of our people—that which comes from the plough-side, and the hearth, the counting room and the workshop—from the most substantial, pure minded, industrious and reflecting members of our community, is for peace.

WESTERN RAIL ROAD.—The House of Representatives on Wednesday last, by a vote of 244 to 122 passed a bill loaning the Western Railroad corporation the further sum of \$1,200,000, on condition that the private stockholders pay forty dollars on each share, and on the further condition that, the State shall have the right of purchasing the whole road at any time, including the profits at the rate of seven per cent. per annum.

In the discussion of the bill, some very interesting facts were brought to light in relation to the fisheries on our northeastern coasts.

Since the opening of the Erie Canal, and the Pennsylvania Railroads, the number of vessels employed in the mackerel fisheries, have increased from one or two dozen to twelve or thirteen hundred, from all the ports of Maine and Massachusetts. A great portion of the fish taken have been sent to the west through these channels of internal improvement. Cod fish also, is said to have found a ready market and an increased demand. The prices have risen 50 per cent. The Western Railroad will open a more direct and ready market, for the products of the fisheries in which thousands of poor fisherman who have heretofore realized but a scanty pittance for the dangers and fatigues which they encounter, will find a lucrative business.

From the Chicago Democ.  
AN INDIAN GIRL BURNED AT THE STAKE.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Oct. 15, 1833.

The Sioux and Pawnees, only 160 miles from here, are in constant hostility. This war has continued for about 200 years. See the Indians here, (the Potawatimies) say. The Pawnees, in a war expedition into the Sioux country last February, took prisoner a Sioux girl only 14 years old, whom they kept about two months until corn planting, and fastened her as they would a hog. They then determined to make a sacrifice of her. This they kept to themselves. Two days before the sacrifice, a council of eighty of the warriors and head men of the nation met to see whether they would accept the offers of two traders of the American Fur company who offered them valuable presents if they would release her to them, so that they might let her return home. But all would not do. A majority of the council was for a sacrifice, of course those in favor of her release could do nothing.

At the breaking up of the council, the prisoner was brought out and accompanied by the whole council, was led from house to house; when they gave her a small billet of wood and a little paint which she handed to the warrior next her, and he passed it to the next until every wigwam had contributed some wood and paint. On the 22d of April she was led out to be sacrificed, but not until she came upon the ground did she conjecture her fate. They had chosen the place between two trees which grew within five feet of each other. Then they made her ascend the three bars tied across from tree to tree, her feet resting on the bars below, where a slow fire kindled beneath would just reach her feet. Two warriors then mounted the bars, and there, standing one on each side of her, held fire under her armpits until she was almost dead. Then at a given signal they all shot arrows in her body so that hardly a pin could be placed between them. The arrows were immediately taken from her flesh, and it was all cut off from her bones in pieces not larger than half a dollar, and put in baskets. And this was done before she was quite dead. Then the principal chief took a piece of her flesh and squeezed it until a drop of blood fell upon the corn that was wrong with the left hand, looks roguish for a moment and laughs, and then with the right strikes the left, as if to correct it.

During the year she has attained great dexterity in the use of the Manual Alphabet of the deaf mutes; and she spells out the words and sentences which she knows, so fas-

and so deftly that only those accustomed to this language can follow with the eye, the rapid motion of her fingers.

I have visited the Ottos, eight miles from here, and have been forcibly struck with their superstitious burials of the dead. When a warrior dies, they kill one of the best horses of the nation on his grave, and then cut off the tail and tie it to a pole 15 feet high and there leave it! They believe the spirit of the horse will serve the spirit of the warrior in the next world.

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Negligence of Postmasters in delivering Papers to Subscribers.

We have recently received a letter from a brother in Norfolk upon this subject, for which we return him thanks. He states that he saw in a store a pile of newspapers, containing, amongst others, the Watchman of the South, the Gospel witness, and the Herald. These papers had been obtained from the Post Office in that place. He thinks this may help to account for the frequent complaints of subscribers in Norfolk, that they were unable to obtain the Herald from the office.

We know that there is great irregularity in many offices. Papers are frequently let out

contrary to law, and when the subscriber calls, his paper is missing. In other cases the papers are frequently thrown aside by readers in the office, and cannot be found when called for.

In two instances we received notices one week that the paper was not called for; and in the following week a complaint from the subscribers, that the papers had not been received at the office. We just forwarded the postmaster's letter to the subscriber, and the subscriber to the postmaster, and forwarded the papers again.

Publishers of newspapers suffer much from these inattentions to duty.—*Rel. Herald.*

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SCHOONER SUNK AND LOSS OF LIVES.—On Tuesday afternoon the schooner experiment, Captain McMahon, left Manhattanville board for this city, laden with a quantity of stone ballast—About 10 o'clock in the evening, as she had reached the foot of 37th street, N. R., owing to the mislading of the freight, she suddenly sunk, carrying down the captain, his wife, two children, and two passengers, all of whom were lost. Two negroes who were on board at the time, and had charge of the vessel, made their escape, and were picked up by a boat passing at the time. —*N. Y. Express.*

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Asylum for Inebriates.—Dr. Woodward of the Worcester Insane Hospital, has written a small pamphlet, in which he strongly recommends the establishment of a hospital for intemperate persons. The Doctor says, the result would be, 'that a large proportion of the intemperate, in a well conducted institution, would be radically cured, and would again go into society with health re-established, diseased appetites removed, with principles of temperance well grounded and thoroughly understood, so that they would be ever afterwards safe and sober men.' We see no reason why such an institution might not be established, and its influence be as salutary as that for the insane. Dr. Woodward is certainly a man that can give correct information upon such subjects.

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Female Morality in Italy.—In the manners and habits, in the very air of Italian ladies there is a want of elegance and delicacy. A certain grossness and vulgarity of mind seem to adhere to them in all they do and say. They encourage liberties of speech which would offend and disgust our country women; and the strain of uniform gallantry, hyperbolic flattery, and unadulterated nonsense of the worst description, in which the men usually indulge and which they seem to like, is a very decisive proof of the difference between female character there and in England.—*Eng. Paper.*

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Moral Effects of Marriage.—The statistics of the Eastern Penitentiary of Pennsylvania are curious in the great inequality which they exhibit between married and unmarried convicts.

Of the one hundred and sixty prisoners received the last year, one hundred and ten were unmarred, six were widowers, and forty-five only were married. I have never seen a stronger illustration of the moral influence of marriage.

It is too late to eulogize the institution, after the world's experience of its ameliorating influence upon the human condition for six thousand years. But we may take this instance as an evidence of its effects in promoting good habits, morality, and virtue, among the lowest classes of society.

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Use this fine weather to prepare the ground for early lettuce. Tie the seeds up in a cloth, and bury them till the first fine weather in April. Then plant and you will be ahead of your neighbors.

—

The place fixed upon by the Legislature of Iowa, as the permanent seat of government of that territory, is to be called the "City of

Iowa."

From the Christian Register.

LAURA BRIDGMAN.

The Annual Report of the Trustees of the Blind Asylum in this City exhibits a very gratifying state of the concerns and improvements of that excellent Institution.

Some of our readers will recollect that we published, a year ago, an interesting account of Laura Bridgman a pupil of the Institution who is deficient in three of the five senses.—A subjoined extract from the Report gives a further description of her case.

It may be remembered, that in the Report of the last Board, particular mention was made of a deaf and dumb, and blind girl, named Laura Bridgman, then a pupil and promise given of further notice of her case.

It has been ascertained beyond the possibility of doubt, that she cannot see a ray of light, cannot hear the least sound, and never exercises her sense of smell, if she has any.

Her mind dwells in darkness and stillness, as profound as that of a closed tomb at midnight. Of beautiful sights, and sweet sounds, and pleasant odors, she has no conception, nevertheless, she seems as happy and playful as any bird or lamb; and the employment of her intellectual faculties, the acquirement of a new idea, gives her a vivid pleasure, which is plainly marked in her express features.

She never seems to repine, but has all the buoyancy and gaiety of childhood. She is fond of fun and frolic, and when playing with the rest of the children, her shrill laugh sounds loudest of the group.

When left alone, she is very happy, she has her knitting or sewing, and will busy herself for hours; if she has no occupation, she evidently amuses herself by imaginary dialogues, or recalling past impressions; she counts with her fingers, or spells out names of things which she has recently learned, in the manual alphabet of the deaf mutes.

Looked upon this prodigy as a warning from Heaven, that the person whom he had determined on making his son-in-law, was unworthy that honor—and another should be chosen in his stead?

—

The Seminoles.—The Washington cor-

respondent of the Journal of Commerce says:

"The Seminoles are said to be strong-

er now than ever, and more capable than

ever of carrying on the war against the U.

S. Mr. Downing, the delegate from Florida,

made some interesting statements on this

subject the other day in the House.

It appears that, after all our expensive cam-

paigns, we have lost one hundred and sixty miles

of territory,—that is, the settlements have

been driven back 160 miles from the inter-

ior,—and that the present frontier is so com-

pletely unprotected that more of the inhabi-

tants have been murdered within the last

few months than at any time since the com-

menement of the war. The Indians are

well supplied with ammunition, and the dimi-

nition of their numbers probably increases

their efficiency as to economy. Sam Jones

will make good Oceola's threat to maintain

the war for five years."

—

SENATOR MORRIS.—This fearless cham-

ption of liberty and genuine friend of humani-

ty deserves something better than a statue

of gold at the hand of his countrymen. We

have received his speech in reply to Mr.

Clay, on the subject of slavery in the Dis-

trict of Columbia, and shall lay it all before

our readers next week. It occupies ten col-

umns of the Washington Globe, and will of

course be circulated through all the south-

ern States. It is an able and most trium-

phant rejoinder, and puts Mr. Clay to open-

shame.—*Liberator.*

—

[This speech will be given entire in the

next Emancipator. It will also be for sale

in pamphlet form, at 143 Nassau st. We

trust our friends in the country will take

immediate measures to put a copy into every

family.]—*Emancipator.*

—

MELANCHOLY CASUALTY.—A dreadful acci-

dent occurred at Brookfield on Saturday last.

As the workmen on the rail road were blast-

ing, a fragment of the rock, supposed to weigh

about a ton, was thrown into Mr. Wm. Meek-

er's mill. The crash and cries of distress were

heard by some persons at a short distance, and

on entering the mill they found Mr. James

Derry, the miller, lying on the floor, with one

leg under the massive fragment, dreadfully

mangled, the part below the knee adhering

only by a small ligament. By the aid of crow-

bars the sufferer was soon released from his

painful situation, and an amputation of the

are requested to say to the editor of the Christian Reflector, that a goodly portion of the Baptists in this region are favorable to the holding of such a convention. Some are, and long have been, very anxious for it, (we are amongst the number) and will see that a delegate or delegates be sent at any convenient time and place that shall be agreed upon. We think New York city would be the better place, and the time of holding the National Anti-Slavery Convention the better time. *Montrose Spec. Pa.*

By reference to the notice of the American Anti-Slavery Society, the reader will learn the time for the proposed Convention.

The Emancipator of the 21 inst. has the following.

#### BAPTIST ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.

From the number of suffrages on this subject already published in the Baptist papers that favor the cry of the slave, we infer that there will be a Convention. Should no other time and place appear preferable, we would venture to suggest the last week in May as the time, and the city of Troy or Albany as the place—provided the Baptist churches in either of these places will extend an invitation to that effect. If not, then let it be at Hartford or Utica, on the same terms.

It ought not to be forgotten that there are more Baptist church members than of any other denomination, that they are very strong in the slaveholding states, that more slaves are Baptists than of any other sect, that Baptists and Baptist ministers are daily bought and sold by Baptists and Baptist ministers, and that probably a majority of the Baptist churches in the country openly countenance polygamy in their slaves.

Also it should be borne in mind, that there are more religious papers *favorable to abolition* among the Baptists than any other class of Christians. The Vermont Telegraph, New Hampshire Register, Zion's Advocate, Eastern Baptist, the Reflector, all speaking out plainly against slavery, ought to produce united and decisive action in the churches. "To whom much is given, of them much will be required."

#### ABOLITION IN OXFORD.

The "signs of the times" indicate that the cause of the Slave (the cause of Liberty) though long neglected in this respectable town, is about to receive its due share of attention among the inhabitants. The Anti-Slavery Society includes in it some of the heartiest friends of the cause. By urgent request, we visited that place on Monday last for the second time, and lectured in the evening to an increased auditory. In the course of the lecture, opportunity was given to any gentleman so disposed, to show that "the people of the North have nothing to do for the abolition of American Slavery." A legal gentleman embraced the opportunity offered, and the discussion lasted about an hour and a half. Of the merits of either party in the discussion, it does not become us to speak; but the intense interest manifested by the people was a sure pledge that the great cause will no more rest there, until it shall rest, as we believe it will every where, on the broad and immovable rock of truth.

The principles of Divine truth, the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, will be ascertained, as they bear on this cause. "Only open your mouths, gentlemen, that is all we ask of you," said John Quincy Adams to the men of the South;—so say we to the men of the North.

The people are the interpreters of the American Constitution; and whenever they shall enter on the work in earnest, the principles of that instrument will be developed. So long as they wait for the Websters, the Clays, the Calhouns, the McDuffles and the Athertons to make out the interpretation for them, they wait in mental Slavery.—As reasonably may the laity wait for ministers to interpret the Bible for them, without giving themselves the trouble of searching the scriptures, as the citizens of the United States for the politicians to expound to them our Constitution, while they do not expend a ninepence to purchase a copy of it, or a week's time in studying its principles and its provisions. The Declaration is the key, the *Dictionary*, of the Constitution. For this purpose our fathers made it, and for this purpose they expected their "posterior," spoken of in the Constitution, would use it. It is declared, in its brief preamble, to be one of the purposes of its adoption "to establish justice." Now, let "justice" be defined by "the Declaration" and what becomes of Slavery?

It is our purpose to say more on this and some other topics mooted in the discussion alluded to, when we shall be more at leisure.

#### PICTORIAL CHIVALRY.

Members of Congress are acquiring "golden honors" by their dignified and chivalrous treatment of the women of the North who have dared to affix their names to Petitions for the abolition of Slavery and the Slave trade in the District of Columbia and for the recognition of Haiti. Among their *gallant* and *decent* acts, is that of sending by Mail to such petitioners from Washington, caricature pictures of negroes &c.—One of these decent pictures has lately been put into our hands, which is post marked "Washington" and charged "25 cents."

Of this vile and contemptible practice we have only to say that our female friends will do well, before they take such letters from the Post Office, just to step into the room and open them in the presence of the Post Master. Then, if the letter proves to be of the character we have described, they are not held to pay the postage.

#### TO OUR READERS.

On account of the Fast, the Reflector is issued before date, this week.

#### THE FOURTH DISTRICT.

The next trial for the choice of a Representative to Congress in Middlesex county, is to take place on Monday next. We hope, every voter will go to the polls, and that every Christian voter will vote, as a disciple of Christ ought to vote, for some man who is known to be "a friend of the slave," which phrase is fast becoming synonymous with "a friend of our own rights and liberties," or "a friend of our country."

#### THE HON. MR. ATHERTON OF "GANG LAW"

memory, has been re-elected to Congress in New Hampshire by a vote *only 200 less* than that of his associates. This number will, probably, be multiplied by more than ten at the next trial.

It is proper to say here that a few of our subscribers seem to have overlooked the words "payable always in advance" in our terms. Will they please remember these words, and on *Fast* day, remember us also?

#### ORDINATION.

Ordained in Marshfield March 20th, Br. E. G. Sears as Pastor of the North Baptist Church in that place. The following was the order of exercises:—Invocation and reading select portions of Scripture by Br. Nathan Stetson of Hanover; Prayer, by Br. W. Burlingame of Hingham; Sermon founded on Numbers 22: 18, by Br. W. H. Shaler of Brookline; Ordaining prayer by Br. E. C. Messenger of Abington; Charge by Br. J. S. White of Kingston; Hand of Fellowship by Br. Silas Ripley of Foxboro; Address to the people by Br. H. N. Loring, Plymouth; Concluding prayer by Rev. Mr. Tappan of the Congregational Church; Benediction by the candidate.

The services were listened to with deep interest, and we trust impressions were made which will not soon be obliterated. The singing on the occasion was performed in a manner truly becoming. While it pleased the ear and enlivened the feelings of the hearers, it reflected much honor upon the performers. The services of the ordination were to be followed by a series of religious meetings. May these be accompanied by the convicting and converting influence of the Holy Spirit.

Br. Sears enters upon his field of labor with prospects quite encouraging. May he there have a rich harvest of souls, and may he be the instrument of preserving his flock from the influence of bad principles and false doctrine, and of leading them onward in *contending earnestly* for the *faith* once delivered to the saints.—*Com.*

For the Christian Reflector.

#### A DRAUGHT OF THE OLD WINE.

In looking over some old newspapers, recently, I met with one bearing the following title: "The Delaware Gazette, and General Advertiser," and dated "Saturday, April 3, 1790." Under the head: "Proceedings of Congress," for Monday, March 17, there are some gleams of truth—or, rather, as my caption intimates, some fountains of the good old *Wine of the Kingdom*. Among other items of proceedings are the following:

"In committee of the whole on the report of the Select Committee, to whom was referred the memorial of the people called Quakers, on the Slave-trade, Mr. Hartley said that he was sorry to hear the cause of slavery advocated in that house. He reprobated the illiberal treatment which the memorial had received, and asserted that they were friends to the Constitution, and that on the present occasion, they came forward from the most laudable motives, from a wish to promote the happiness of mankind; that their conduct so far from receiving censure, deserved and would receive applause of the civilized world. Mr. Smith (S. C.) followed in a speech or essay, of nearly two hours in length in the defense of the Slave Trade."

On Monday, March 22, the discussion was renewed; and on Tuesday, after a storm of "order! order!" *la la la la*, the report, in favor of the *Slave*, was adopted.

In the same paper under the editorial head, is the following extract: "The Abbe Raynal, that celebrated philosopher and friend of man-kind, says on the subject of slavery:

"I will not disgrace myself by adding one to the list of venal writers who have prostituted their pens in defense of a trade so abhorrent to the laws of Universal Justice. No principles of policy can justify the breach of her sacred laws, so enlightened an age, an age where so many errors are boldly held open, it would be shameful to conceal any truth that is so interesting to humanity. We will first prove that no reasons of State can justify slavery. In doing this, we shall not hesitate to arraign before the tribunal of eternal light and justice, all those governments who tolerate the cruel practice, or are not ashamed to make it the basis of their power. The great Montesquieu could not prevail upon himself to treat the question of Slavery in a serious light. In reality, it is degrading to reason to employ it, I will not say in defending, but even in refuting an abuse so repugnant to it: however justifies so odious a system deserves the utmost contempt."

These extracts might be increased by many similar, from political papers in this region, of the same date. They are not, however, so remarkable for their character, as for the time and place of their publication. Such sentiments were then not uncommon, either in Congress or in papers published in portions of the slave country. *Sed tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.* It may be asked what has produced this unhappy change in times and men? I answer from long experience and observation, Colonization—COLONIZATION. These attacks on the odious system, so abhorrent from the principles of justice, eternal light and policy, were continued, by such men as Franklin, Rush, Jay, and La Fayette, down to within a few years preceding the *prospective* formation of the Colonization Society, in the secret session of the Virginia Legislature.

And yet we are gravely and often severely told, by our good brethren, that colonization promotes abolition; and they see no right reason why Abolitionists and Colonizationists cannot labor together! I would not speak reproachfully. God forbid! But I cannot help thinking of the homely old proverb; "None so blind as those that won't see." More anon.

C. W. D.

Wilmington, Del.

For the Christian Reflector.

#### AN OBSERVER OF SLAVERY.

Extracts of a letter from a gentleman now traveling in the far South and West to his friend in Worcester County Mass. dated Feb. 26, 1839.

"The more I see of slavery, the more I wonder that it exists even now; the more I wonder that every Southerner is not an abolitionist. I wish every individual of them could travel through New England, leisurely and observing, if it did not make them sick to loathing of this cursed and cursing institution, I am much mistaken. The increased and increasing facilities for traveling are the best abolition agents that can be found.—They will accomplish what preaching and writing, "charm they never so wisely" never can bring about. I really believe that the worst sufferers by the abolition of slavery would be the slaves themselves.—I grant, as they are, it would be long before their benighted and degraded intellect could be made to comprehend the great principles of the social compact. They for ages have had no future to care for, no provision to make for to-morrow, consequently their energies and intellect sleep a sleep as dreamless almost as the sleep of death. And I do not think it at all strange that many freed negroes should wish to be slaves again. But how this can be an argument of weight in any man's mind in favor of slavery I cannot understand—though against immediate emancipation, I believe it to be one of serious weight for which a remedy should be sought in the first place, and when it is found, slavery need not, ought not to exist for a single day. All my cogitations upon this subject end in this. I thank God, I was not nursed in our country.

Resolved, That this Society deeply regrets the existence of any disagreement between the American Board and the Board of the State of Massachusetts, and that we earnestly hope that the officers of the two bodies will use conciliatory measures amicably to adjust their existing difficulties without any further public collision.

Resolved, That the independent and noble stand taken in the Senate of the United States, by Mr. Morris of Ohio, in his able, dignified, and unanswerable argument in defense of the right of petition and the cause of Abolition, entitles him to the respect and love of all the real friends of liberty, and to be ranked as a true yoke-fellow with that pre-eminent statesman and champion of the right of petition, John Quincy Adams, and that able, early, and tried friend of the slave William Slade of Vermont.

Resolved, That the American Colonization Society is supported at the north by

pride against color, and at the south by the determined supporters of slavery, and is the enemy of our colored brethren; and therefore it is the duty of Abolitionists openly to declare their unceasing hostility to its principles and measures, and to be vigilant in watching it and guarding against its devices.

Resolved, That all laws founded on a distinction of color, are unjust and slavish, the immediate repeal of which is imperiously demanded by equal rights, humanity and justice; that great credit is due to the ladies of Lynn and other towns who have petitioned the Legislature to that effect; that the treatment of their petitions by members of the Legislature is characteristic of savage despots, rather than civilized Republicans; and that the report of the committee on said petitions, is every way worthy to have been made by the chairman of that committee.

Resolved, That the proceedings be offered for publication in the Christian Reflector, Massachusetts Spy, Liberator, and Massachusetts Abolitionist.

For the Christian Reflector.

#### A SUPPOSITION.

Mr. Editor—Let us suppose your office the centre, around which is described a circle including one half the County of Worcester.—And dirt within that circle there is a Town with a population of 1702 inhabitants, who support three Evangelical Ministers of the Gospel.—That these Ministers frequently preach Missionary sermons; and collect \$300 per annum for sustaining foreign Missions; that there is, dispersed through the place, a portion of the people, say 150 persons, who never attend any place of public worship; who possess few, if any, Bibles, & no other religious books, and who, although surrounded with the means of grace, voluntarily deprive themselves of them; who will not move a step after the Gospel, but will receive it, if carried to them; and the Pastors never look after those stray sheep, but pass years in their midst, without any knowledge of them, while they are descending to the tomb as much unheeded as the Heathen of Asia or Africa; on whose skirts will their blood be found? Does charity, in such case, begin at home? Are these good shepherds, that care for the flock, when they do not even, invite them into the fold? *Verily, there is a heathen population in our country, other than the Slaves of the South, even in the heart of old Massachusetts*, amongst the descendants of the puritans.—"Watchman, what of the night?" And now that we are upon the *rule of supposition*, Mr. Editor, we will suppose there is another town within this circle containing about the same number of inhabitants, but with one Unitarian Minister, and two others, professedly evangelical; and in the church of one of the latter, both the heads of a family are members, as also several of their children, and after having been pastor of the church for two years, so little does he look after and feed these lambs, that he does not even know, how many of the family are members of the church, although he lives but about one mile from them, and they attend public worship every Lord's day. If these little children *die spiritu* for want of the "sincere milk of the word," by which they might be nourished up unto eternal life, will such minister's conscience *fail him out*? And can you tell us, Mr. Editor, by some unusual rule of Geometrical progression, or by some magic use of numbers about how long it will be before the introduction of the Millennium, through the pastoral labors of such shepherds? Should the above meet the eye of any of the "heralds of the Cross," whose consciences shall disturb them, will they please pardon this plainness of speech and be assured that it is not the wish of the writer to impute of *unchristian* severity to these good shepherds, but because his heart has been pained with a knowledge of facts, thus hypothetically stated. I write this, not because I love Ministers, but because I love the souls of men more.

D.

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the list of venal writers who have prostituted

their pens in defense of a trade so abhorrent

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## POETRY.

For the Christian Reflector.

LINES SUGGESTED BY THE SINGING OF A BLUE-BIRD.

Hail, earliest warbler of the spring,  
From southern climes returned, to sing  
Upon thy fav're tree:  
'Tis sweet to hear thy cheerful voice;  
Thy music makes my heart rejoice,  
I love thy melody—

It seems to say "the winter's o'er,  
And genial spring is here once more,  
To cheer and bless the land;  
Soon will the hills and vales be seen,  
Array'd in robes of lovely green,  
By the Creator's hand."

Thus, when the spirits quick'ning breath,  
Dissolves the frost of sin and death  
In penitential tears,  
And ransom'd souls begin to sing  
Hosanna to their hedy'ly King,  
With joy the christian hears.

His faith, and hope, and love revive  
When he beholds dead sinners live  
Redeem'd by Jesus' blood:  
And when the buds of grace appear,  
His faith, beholds a harvest near,  
Of sinners, turn'd to God.

From the N. H. Baptist Register.

## THE DEJECTED.

All my fond hopes are vanished—all the joys

Which fancy's dreams had pictured and the light

Of life shines dimly through the clouds of care.  
My harp that long breathed forth its faintesttones,  
Gave out one note of joy which rent its strings;  
And, like the hand that swept it, now it hangsNeglected,—sad remembrance of blies,  
Which scarce was called to being ere some

hand

Unseen snatched it away. O thou just Power,  
And is this all of happiness below?

And must the path of life thus ever through

A lonely, dark and dreary desert lie,

Where suns forgot to shine, or faintly beam

Through gathering mist and deepening gloom?

Must man,

Thy 'noblest work,' he doomed to constant wo,

Inquietude and grief, and wan despair?

Must all the flowers he calls drop and decay

Beneath his touch? Ah, tell me why is this?

'Tis feebly answered in the zephyr's breath,

'Tis loudly told when thunders roar on high,

And earthquakes rock the towering mountain's

base.

'Once Eden's skies were pure, serene and bright,

And all her walks were strewed with beauteous

flowers.

And there in innocence divine man reigned

Supreme, till in an evil hour he fell,

By Satan's wiles deceived.'

In vain we look

For Eden bliss, for all the earth affords

Is darkly stained with sin and all its joy

With sorrow intermixed. Its gleam of hope

Is like the meteor's glare, with transient beams

And dazzles to obscure.

'But is there not

One ray of light?' the pensive mourner cries.

'Oh is there not some faint concealed to wash

Our griefs away?' 'Yes,' faith replies, and

points

The weary one of earth to skies afar,

Far beyond this darkened sphere—to suns that

shine

On plants that languish not, that never die,

To that pure stream which flows around the

throne

Of Majesty Divine, Eternal Love!

'Wait patiently my will,' a voice is heard

To say; 'What though thy path be strewed with

thorns;

What though it leads through sorrows darksome

vale,

A moment, and 'tis o'er. Mortal be hushed!

For I ordain it should be so to try

Thy faith and prove thy love sincere. A few

More days shall dawn on thee in this dark world,

A few more hopes deceive, a few more joys

Elude thy eager grasp, a few more friends

Forsook thee, then the curtains of the tomb

Shall drop, and thou shalt rest, forever rest,

Far from the noise of discontent and strife,

Go then, obey thy Maker's just commands

And wait in quiet till the change shall be.'

S. B.

## AN INCIDENT.

One day last week, there came into the city, from a distance of seventeen or twenty miles, a being sustaining the relations of a man, with a lovely looking woman—his wife—bringing some baskets for sale, neatly made in the style of Indian manufacture. The lady—for such she truly seemed, and gave evidence that she had seen better days, was active in trying to dispose of them. How she succeeded, we know not; but in the disposition of one of them, an incident occurred which told the secret of all their poverty and all their woes. A gentleman—not himself—bargained for one at two shillings; and taking out of his pocket one piece of money, it was seized with the eagerness of stealth by the husband. She looked up with a piteous expression of countenance, and said, in a most subdued tone, the tears starting from her eyes, "Sir give me the rest, or it will go for rum. I have two children, and they need bread; I have left home and come this distance with these baskets, made with my own hands, to purchase it for them—they are hungry and cold."—*Maine Wesleyan Journal.*

PRESENT FROM TEXAS TO GEN. JACKSON.—The Nashville Union of the 20th says:—We yesterday saw at the warehouse of Mr. Anderson, in this city, a large Eagle, in full feathers and health which has been forwarded as a present of the Government of Texas to Ex-President Jackson. We understand it was accompanied by papers under the official seal of the Texan Secretary of State which have been forwarded to the Hermitage.

## "POLITICAL CONDITION OF EUROPE."

[From a Correspondent in France]

France, January 1839.

Mr. Editor—I propose to send you a summary view of the political condition of the continent of Europe, adding such remarks as are necessary to explain the principal facts.

The papers which you receive from Europe seem to me not to give you perfectly correct information, because they are all more or less tintured with party spirit; and, at your distance from our continent, it is difficult, if not impossible, to distinguish the truth among so much falsehood and prejudice. The result is, that the American journals often commit great mistakes in their observations upon the political condition of Europe. My object will be to give you a faithful, conscientious statement of facts and I hope to be able to fulfil this duty, because from my personal situation I am aloof from all the designs and intrigues of parties.

A few words will suffice to acquaint you with my political opinions. I am attached heartily to Constitutional opinions and institutions; I desire that liberty,—liberty based upon wise and equitable laws,—should every where supplant the old forms of despotism; but at the same time I am a sincere friend of order and stability. Innovations should be well-weighed, and introduced slowly and cautiously, to be truly useful. The government should be strong enough to effect its purposes. The people should regard obedience as one of their first duties. No absolute government, no anarchy. The despotism of the people and despotism of kings are equally bad in my view.

The laws alone should govern, and these laws should be always conformed to the manners and the degree of civilization of the people for whom they are made. Republican institutions, for example, would not suit France, while they are a blessing to the United States. It belongs to the statesman to observe these differences, and to shape his opinions and conduct accordingly.

But to end these preliminary remarks, and to come to facts which deserve your attention, observe that this letter and the following are simply *essays*. If your readers take an interest in them, I will go on with my correspondence; if not, it will be discontinued immediately.

FRANCE.

Let us speak first of France. The prominent fact in the present political condition of this country, is the *coalition*. What is the coalition? you will ask. I will answer this question. There are in the Chamber of Deputies five different parties, namely, the ministerialists, the legitimists, the doctrinaires, the advocates of democracy who consent to monarchical institutions with Louis Philip for their king, and the republicans. But, of these five parties, four have leagued together or *coalesced* to overturn the ministry.

The cabinet directed by Count Mole is accused of being too submissive to the personal influence of the king, of having employed corrupt means to preserve their power, and of being too feeble to fulfil the duties entrusted to them. They are also accused of not having maintained the dignity of France in the eyes of the principal governments of Europe. A *servile* ministry, a *corrupt* and *corrupting* ministry, an *incapable* ministry, *faithless* to the honor of the country; these are the reproaches made by the coalition to the cabinet of M. Mole. Are these reproaches deserved? Not wholly.—The ministry has followed the political system accepted by France since the revolution of July; it has maintained order and prosperity at home, and executed its treaties abroad. The personal influence of the king Louis Philip is not greater now than it was before; I believe it is unavoidable in the present state of things, and if other ministers should be appointed, it would be the same. As to the charge of bribery and corruption, it rests only on vague conjectures. But it must be confessed, on the other hand, that some members of the ministry are very ordinary men; not one of them professes great talents as an orator, and in our form of government, eloquence is necessary to men in power.

The head of the cabinet, Count Mole, is a skilful diplomatist, and was high in office under the reign of Napoleon. M. de Montalivet, minister of the interior, is an efficient officer. These two men are the most eloquent of the cabinet; but neither of them is first rate; they are eclipsed by Messrs. Guizot, Thiers, Odilon-Barrot. This is a great fault in a representative government; for ministers ought to be able to defend their cause eloquently and successfully in national councils.

The other members of the cabinet are inferior to those I have cited. M. Lacavent-Laplaque, minister of finance, has talents enough for a subordinate of the second class. M. Martin, minister of commerce and public works, poorly understands the difficult questions he is called to decide. M. Barthé, minister of justice and of worship, has been a good lawyer these ten years; but he inspires little confidence because he lacks elevated and fixed principles. M. de Salvandy, minister of public instruction, an intelligent man, fluent in conversation, is too frivolous, too heedless to occupy properly so prominent a post; he has made himself ridiculous by head-long measures which he has afterwards been obliged to abandon. M. Bernard and M. Rosamé, the one minister of war, the other minister of the marine, are men of no account at the national councils; they conduct their offices tolerably well, but have none of the qualities of true statesmen.

Such being the composition of the ministry, it is easy to understand why it is violently attacked. France should have at its head intelligent, eloquent and energetic men. But does the obvious inferiority of the ministry justify the coalition? I think not. The coalition is, in my opinion, *imprudent* in its conduct, and *dangerous* in its consequences.

It is *immoral*; for what is more immoral than the hypocritical and transient union of men most opposite in their opinions?—

What! legitimists shake hands with republicans? Doctrinaires in alliance with advocates of democracy! For eight years they fought with one another bitterly, and now they go together, vote together, praise and support one another; What a farce! what falsehood! Their union is a mere imposition, a lie; the men who compose it have not abandoned nor changed their opinions; these are the same now that they were yesterday. The legitimists hate the republicans, and vice versa. The doctrinaires fear the attacks of democracy, and the democrats detest the principles of the doctrinaires.—They are enemies at heart, and yet they call themselves friends,—and the best friends in the world, before the public. This example of hypocrisy must demoralize the nation, if it continues long.

The coalition is *imprudent* in its conduct. Its tone is acrimonious, reproachful, insulting, exciting the passions of the people, and stirring up bitter resentments. What a sad and mortifying spectacle! The very men who employed all their efforts in former years, to suppress political commotions and storms, who made rigid laws to restore public order; these same men now overturn the edifice they so laboriously erected; they attack royalty in its inviolable sanctuary, they excite anew the tempest of popular fury surely allayed; and why? for what end? For their own selfish interest, it must be confessed with grief. These men wish to obtain again the offices they have lost; they aspire to become ministers. Private life is irksome to them; the lust for power leads them on, and they listen only to the voices of ambition. They care not if they weaken the authority of the laws: prudence, patriotism, and self-devotion are forgotten.—The government should be strong enough to effect its purposes. The people should regard obedience as one of their first duties. No absolute government, no anarchy. The despotism of the people and despotism of kings are equally bad in my view.

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Ed. Freeman.

To the Editor of the New York Daily Whig.

Although almost every person in the community will readily admit, that the use of tea tends to derange and prostrate the nervous energies of the system, yet at the same time such persons continue the use of it. So much has been said and written in reference to the deleterious effects of tea on animal life, that I will not trouble you by repeating the statements of others, but will give you the result of my own experience. It is a law of the animal economy, that stimulants and excitants invariably result in a corresponding depression or absence of such stimulus or reciprocates—the nerves being the recipients of the injury in both cases.

During an extensive dental practice I have had an opportunity of observing the condition of those of my patrons who were in the habit of drinking strong tea,—and I have found that such persons have weak, irritable and sensitive nerves. In many cases I have been obliged to discontinue my operations, owing to the extreme delicacy and irritability of the nervous system. This led me to make some experiments, the result of which I now present to the public. Each of the elements of which it is composed will resume its natural propensity, parties will dispute over the ruins they have helped around them. Then, what will become of the government? what security will there be for order and quiet to the country? God only knows, but we can foresee that a vast and deep commotion will be the consequence of this false coalition, if it succeeds in its designs.

It is evidently a critical moment with France. Not perhaps in eight years, have circumstances been more serious and more threatening. The struggle has begun in the Chamber of Deputies; it will soon be decided. The result of the vote is still uncertain, for the Chamber is divided into two nearly equal parties; on one side, the ministry with its numerous friends who have resolved to support it; on the other, the coalition which gathers under its standard all the various oppositions of the right and the left.

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BELGIUM.

Belgium is also in a critical state, and is preparing for a war which will perhaps involve all Europe, if it takes place. When the Belgians revolted against the dominion of the king of Holland, two large provinces which did not belong to Belgium, Luxembourg and Limburg, made common cause with them. The result of the vote is still uncertain, for the Chamber is divided into two nearly equal parties; on one side, the ministry with its numerous friends who have resolved to support it; on the other, the coalition which gathers under its standard all the various oppositions of the right and the left.

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